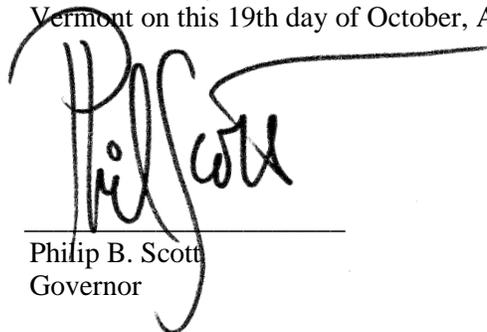


**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

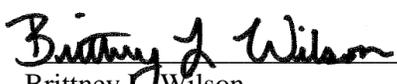
- WHEREAS,** afterschool programs provide safe and engaging learning experiences that help children realize their full potential; and
- WHEREAS,** afterschool programs support working families by ensuring their children are safe and productive when they are out of their classrooms; and
- WHEREAS,** afterschool programs build stronger communities by involving peers, parents, business leaders and adult volunteers in the lives of young people, thereby promoting positive relationships among kids, families and adults; and
- WHEREAS,** afterschool programs engage families, schools and community partners in advancing the welfare of our children; and
- WHEREAS,** since 2021 the State of Vermont has invested nearly \$10 million to expand afterschool and summer programming expected to result in more than 7500 new slots in out-of-school time programming and upwards of 14-15,000 youth served; and
- WHEREAS,** the Interagency Afterschool Youth Task Force is building a universal afterschool system to ensure all Vermont youth have affordable afterschool and summer opportunities where they can be active, engaged, connected, and heard; and
- WHEREAS,** afterschool programs have stepped up to support youth in addressing the social and academic needs as they recover from the pandemic and continue to provide innovative, hands-on opportunities for youth to reengage in their learning and connect with caring adults and peers in a safe and supportive environment; and
- WHEREAS,** many afterschool programs across the country are facing operating challenges so severe that they are forced to consider closing their doors and turning off their lights; and
- WHEREAS,** the State of Vermont is committed to investing in the health and safety of all young people by providing expanded learning opportunities that help our children learn and grow, while helping them develop the skills essential for success in life and work.
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim October 20, 2022 as

**LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL DAY
in Vermont.**

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 19th day of October, A.D. 2022.


Philip B. Scott
Governor




Brittney L. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs